

Your Rights as a Victim of Crime

The District Attorney's Office believes that justice requires the voice of victims, and that victims are more than evidence.

What rights do I have as a victim of crime?

- To be treated with **fairness and respect**.
- To speak with the Deputy District Attorney about your case, the **charges that have been filed** and to be **informed before the case is settled**.
- To be **protected from the defendant** and to have your safety considered before a bail amount is set.
- To **know about, be present and speak** at public court hearings.
- To be **notified about the conviction, sentence, incarceration and release** of the defendant.
- To **restitution** for economic losses resulting from the crime.

Contact Us

(650) 599-7479

E-mail: victimservices@smcgov.org

Web: da.smcgov.org

400 County Center, 3rd Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

222 Paul Scannel Drive, 2nd Floor
San Mateo, CA 94402

1050 Mission Road
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Helpful Information

Jail Inmate Locator:

To sign up to be notified when an offender is released from jail, please visit <https://smc-inmatelocator.org> or call (650) 363-4424. You will need the offender's name, date of birth and/or inmate number.

Helpful Contacts:

Rape Trauma Services (RTS)

Sexual Abuse Support

Crisis Line: 650-692-7273

info@rapetraumaservices.org

Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA)

Domestic Violence Support

Crisis Line: 800-300-1080

info@corasupport.org



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VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION



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SAN MATEO COUNTY



Victim Services Division

Commitment to Serving Our Community

The San Mateo County Victim Services Division has been providing support to victims of crime and their families since 1975. Our Victim Advocates care for a victim's physical, emotional and financial needs after a crime. We do this by providing support, information, links to community resources and assisting in the enforcement of victim's rights.

Our services are free of charge and are provided to all individuals regardless of immigration status, race, religion or income.

***"Your Advocates make a
difference in people's lives."***

- Anonymous

How Can the Victim Services Division Help You?

If you or a member of your family have been the victim of a violent crime, our Victim Advocates are here to help. There are many things that a Victim Advocate may be able to help you with.

Examples of services available to victims of crime:

- Support and information about your case including: case updates, support in court, education and enforcement of victim's rights.
- Assistance with the California Victim Compensation Board Application.
- Community referrals and information to help you locate the right resources to meet your needs.
- Emergency assistance to meet immediate needs such as safety planning, food, shelter and clothing.



California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB)

If you or a member of your family have been the victim of a violent crime, you may be eligible to receive financial assistance through CalVCB.

CalVCB may cover...

Medical or dental expenses, **mental health counseling** (outpatient), **funeral/burial** expenses, **relocation or home security improvements**, **wage loss** if you were unable to work as a result of the crime.

Eligibility...

To learn if you may be eligible for CalVCB, please contact a Victim Advocate.

Restitution for Victims of Crime

As a victim of a crime, you have the right to receive reimbursement for crime-related expenses. California law requires a judge to order every defendant convicted of a crime to pay restitution to a victim in every case where the victim suffered a financial loss.

What costs can I request as restitution ?

Any crime-related expenses such as the **value of stolen/damaged property**, **repair costs**, **towing fees** and any **other losses** that are not covered by CalVCB.

How do I collect restitution that is owed to me?

Depending on the type of sentence imposed on the defendant, restitution is paid into an account. The agency responsible for collecting will forward any restitution payments made by the defendant to the victim.